

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NOUAKC 01389 100937Z

20

ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 NEA-07 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 /029 W

----- 125235

R 091430Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4062

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L NOUAKCHOTT 1389

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OREP (DIGGS, CHARLES C. JR.)

SUBJECT: CODEL DIGGS CONVERSATION WITH MAURITANIAN PRESIDENT

SUMMARY: CONGRESSMAN AND MRS. CHARLES C. DIGGS, CONGRESSWOMAN CONLISS COLLINS, AND MRS. LESLIE YATES VISITED MAURITANIA JULY 6-7. CODEL, ACCOMPANIED BY AMBASSADOR, CALLED ON PRESIDENT MOKTAR OULD DADDAH JULY 7. PRESIDENT TOOK OCCASION TO EXPRESS NATIONAL AND HIS DEEP PERSONAL APPRECIATION FOR SIGNIFICANT ASSISTANCE USG AND AMERICAN PEOPLE HAD PROVIDED DURING DROUGHT CRISIS. MAJOR TOPICS DISCUSSED WERE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (ECOWAS), DECOLONIALIZATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA, ARAB-AFRICAN RELATIONS, AND KAMPALA OAU MEETING. END SUMMARY.

1. PRESIDENT TOOK OCCASION OF CODEL VISIT TO EXPRESS APPRECIATION OF MAURITANIA AND HIS OWN PERSONAL THANKS FOR SIGNIFICANT ASSISTANCE USG AND AMERICAN PEOPLE HAD PROVIDED DURING DROUGHT CRISIS. HE NOTED U.S. HAD BEEN LARGEST SINGLE DONOR, AND HAD IN FACT PROVIDED 44 PERCENT OF TOTAL ASSISTANCE. HE RECALLED THAT HE HAD GIVEN A DETAILED LISTING OF THE ASSISTANCE EXTENDED BY US AND OTHER DONORS DURING HIS NOVEMBER 1974 STATE OF NATION SPEECH, AND INDICATED HE INTENDED TO INCLUDE A SIMILAR SECTION IN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NOUAKC 01389 100937Z

ADDRESS HE WILL BE DELIVERING THIS NOVEMBER ON FIFTEENTH

ANNIVERSARY OF MAURITANIA INDEPENDENCE.

2. ECOWAS: AFTER REVIEWING EVENTS LEADING UP TO FORMATION OF ECOWAS, OULD DADDAH ASSERTED THAT AFRICAN LEADERS FULLY APPRECIATE DIFFICULTIES IN IMPLEMENTING AGREEMENT. THEY ARE ALSO AWARE THAT FORMER COLONIZING POWERS ARE "DOING NOTHING TO AID THE UNIFYING EFFORT." (INDEED, IMPLICATION WAS QUITE CLEAR THAT THEY ARE OPPOSED TO EFFORT AND ACTIVELY WORKING AGAINST IT.) PRESIDENT WAS CONFIDENT, HOWEVER, DESPITE PROBLEMS AND OPPOSITION, THAT IN 15 YEARS THERE WILL BE REGIONAL INTEGRATION AT ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL LEVELS. HE ANTICIPATES THERE WILL BE LITTLE EMPHASIS ON FANCY, COMPLEX AND VISIONARY GRAND DESIGN PROJECTS. INSTEAD THERE WILL BE STRONG EFFORT TO DEVELOP TENS OF PRACTICAL PROJECTS FOR IMPROVING REGIONAL INTEGRATION. HE CITED EXAMPLE OF COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORTATION, NOTING THAT WHEN HE TELEPHONES BANJUL, WHICH IS SCARCELY 500 KILOMETERS AWAY, THE CALL MUST GO THROUGH PARIS AND THEN LONDON. THIS, HE SAID, IS UNACCEPTABLE.

3. SOUTHERN AFRICA OULD DADDAH EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH EVENTS IN FORMER PORTUGUESE AFRICA AND SAID ZIMBABWE AND NAMIBIA CAN NOW EXPECT TO BECOME INDEPENDENT REASONABLY QUICKLY. SOUTH AFRICA, ON OTHER HAND, WILL BE TOUGHER NUT TO CRACK. NEVERTHELESS, TOTAL INDEPENDENCE FOR SOUTH AFRICA IS INEVITABLE AND DAY WILL COME IN NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE WHEN "ALL OF AFRICA WILL BE INDEPENDENT ALL THE WAY TO THE CAPE."

4. ARAB-AFRICAN RELATIONS: EMPHASIZING COOPERATIVE NATURE OF ARAB-AFRICAN RELATION, OULD DADDAH SAID THERE IS PROPOSAL ON TABLE FOR CHIEFS OF STATE MEETING FOR ALL MEMBERS OF ARAB LEAGUE AND ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY TO DISCUSS ENTIRE RANGE OF PROBLEMS. OULD DADDAH OBSERVED THAT ARAB OIL PRODUCERS HAVE ALREADY EXTENDED CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE TO POORER COUNTRIES IN BLACK AFRICA. HE COMMENTED THAT WHILE MAURITANIA MAY FEEL THAT ARAB OIL PRODUCERS HAVE NOT YET DONE ENOUGH AND SHOULD DO MORE, IT NONETHELESS RECOGNIZES THAT BEGINNING HAS BEEN MADE.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 NOUAKC 01389 100937Z

5. KAMPALA OAU MEETING: OULD DADDAH NOTED THAT HE PLANS TO ATTEND OAU CHIEF OF STATE MEETING IN KAMPALA. HE WAS UNWILLING, HOWEVER, TO COMMENT ON AGENDA OR INDICATE FOCUS OF SESSION.

6. OTHER CALLS: DURING VISIT TO MAURITANIA, CODEL DIGGS CALLED ON DAH OULD SIDI HAIBA, PRESIDENT OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY; ABDALLAHI OULD CHEIKH, MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND

TRANSPORT AND ACTING MINISTER OF PLANNING; AND
ABDULLAHI OULD BAH, MINISTER OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
AND DIRECTOR OF DROUGHT RELIEF. PRESIDENT OF NATIONAL
ASSEMBLY HOSTED DINNER IN HONOR OF CODEL.HANDYSIDE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NOUAKC01389
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750238-0408
From: NOUAKCHOTT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750773/aaaacmw.tel
Line Count: 119
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION H
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <03 OCT 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CODEL DIGGS CONVERSATION WITH MAURITANIAN PRESIDENT SUMMARY: CONGRESSMAN AND MRS. CHARLES C. DIGGS, CONGRESSWOMAN
TAGS: OREP, (DIGGS, CHARLES C JR)
To: STATE ABIDJAN
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006